



01/15/03

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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And A

Applicant(s): James McCormick, et al.

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING CALL
SIGNALING MESSAGES

App. No.: 09/246,612

Filed: 02/08/99

Examiner: Tang, Kenneth

Group Art Unit: 2156

Atty. Dkt. No. 1400.9801020

RECEIVED

JAN 13 2003

Technology Center 2100

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office action of 07/31/2002, Applicant submits the following:

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-39 are pending in the present application. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-39. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of pending claims 1-39.

The Examiner has rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which the Examiner alleges was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. The Examiner states that "essential messages" have been referred to without being formally defined in the specification and that the definition of that term was not understood.

Applicant respectfully disagrees. Applicant refers the Examiner to Fig. 4 and page 10, line 24, through page 11, line 28, of the specification. Applicant notes that link layer information is given as an example of an essential call signaling message type (page 11, line 10). Applicant submits that one of ordinary skill in the art, with the benefit of the disclosure provided by the specification, would readily appreciate the nature of an essential call signaling message type, especially in view of the stated example of link layer information and the understanding that such an example would connote.